



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
-----------------	-------------	----------------------	---------------------	------------------

10/731,060

12/09/2003

Yoichiro Tsuruta

36314

3741

116

7590

09/27/2006

PEARNE & GORDON LLP

1801 EAST 9TH STREET

SUITE 1200

CLEVELAND, OH 44114-3108

EXAMINER

HOLLOWAY III, EDWIN C

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2612

DATE MAILED: 09/27/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

87

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/731,060	Applicant(s) TSURUTA ET AL.	
	Examiner Edwin C. Holloway, III	Art Unit 2612	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 July 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 3-9 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 3-9 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Art Unit: 2612

EXAMINER'S RESPONSE

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 6-9-06 has been entered. All the amendments to the specification and claims have been entered. The examiner has considered the new presentation of claims and applicant's arguments in view of the disclosure and the present state of the prior art. And it is the examiner's opinion that the claims are unpatentable for the reasons set forth in this Office action:

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

3. Claims 1 and 3-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lee (US 6570507B1) in combination with Klitsgaard (US006624752B2) or Martin (US005500691A).

Regarding claims 1 and 3-9, Lee discloses a remote controller locating system and method. Pressing a call key button located on an appliance (TV) causes a transmitter in the

Art Unit: 2612

TV to transmit a signal including a remote controller call ID stored or control code in the TV. The remote control apparatus (remote controller) includes a receiver to receive the ID and an indicator activated by controller 21 for locating the remote controller if the code matches the ID or operation code stored in the remote controller. Replacing the battery in the remote controller causes the remote controller microprocessor to be reset. Upon reset, the ID stored in the remote controller is automatically erased and the microcomputer transmits a reset demand/request command or instruction to the TV for resetting the remote controller ID. The TV responds by storing a new ID and transmitting the new ID as a registration signal to the remote controller. The new ID may be generated randomly. The remote controller receives and stores the new ID in a register as a registration operation. Subsequent operation of a call key button on the TV transmits the ID code and the receiver in the remote controller compares a received ID code to the prior registered ID code to provide a indication if they match. If the remote controller demands a reset, the ID is automatically set, providing a signification convenience to the user as well as assigning different ID's to other kinds and models. See at least the abstract, col. 4 line 44 - col. 7 line 14, col. 8 lines 14-30 and col. 9 lines 37-57.

Art Unit: 2612

Lee discloses that the TV stores a control code in response to an instruction from the remote controller, but does not expressly disclose the instruction is provided in response to a remote control operation button.

Klitsgaard discloses an analogous art locator device with configuration memory that may be reset by either removing the battery or pressing a reset button. See col. 10 lines 39-46.

Martin discloses an analogous art remote controller with ID to prevent interference in col. 1 lines 48-55. An ID registration instruction is sent to the TV by operation of a button on the remote controller in col. 4 lines 35-50.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have included in Lee the limitation of the instruction provided in response to a remote control operation button in view of Klitsgaard disclosing a reset button as an obvious alternative to replacing batteries or in view of Martin disclosing registration instruction provided by button operation on the remote controller to reduce interference.

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1 and 3-9 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Art Unit: 2612

Conclusion

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Kaihatsu (US005898386A) and Yoshinobu (US 5684526) disclose remote controller with button for registering an ID.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact an Electronic Business Center (EBC) representatives at 571-272-4100 or toll free at 1-866-217-9197 between the hours of 6 a.m. and midnight Monday through Friday EST, or by e-mail at ebc@uspto.gov. The Patent EBC is a complete customer service center that supports all Patent e-business products and service applications. Additional information is available on the Patent EBC Web site at <http://www.uspto.gov/ebc/index.html>.


Any inquiry of a general nature should be directed to the Technology Center 2600 receptionist at (571) 272-2600. Facsimile submissions may be sent via central fax number 571-273-8300 to customer service for entry by technical support staff. Questions related to the operation of the facsimile system should be directed to the Electronic Business Center.

CENTRALIZED DELIVERY POLICY: For patent related correspondence, hand carry deliveries must be made to the Customer Service Window (now located at the Randolph Building, 401 Dulany Street, Alexandria, VA 22314), and facsimile transmissions must be sent to the Central FAX number, unless an exception applies. For example, if the examiner has rejected claims in a regular U.S. patent application, and the reply to the examiner's Office action is desired to be transmitted by facsimile rather than mailed, the reply must be sent to the Central FAX Number. Inquiries concerning only hours and location of the Customer Window may be directed to OIPE Customer Service at (571) 272-4000

Art Unit: 2612

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Edwin C. Holloway, III whose telephone number is (571) 272-3058. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8:30-5:00). If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wendy Garber can be reached on (571) 272-7308.

EH
9/24/06


EDWIN C. HOLLOWAY, III
PRIMARY EXAMINER
ART UNIT 2612